

Claims

1. Use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a cytotoxic drug and a porous carrier material in the preparation of a medicament for the intra-tumoural delivery of a cytotoxic
5 drug in a method of treating a cancer by chemo-brachytherapy.
2. Use according to claim 1 wherein the porous carrier material is doped or undoped silicon, germanium, silicon carbide or silicon nitride
- 10 3. Use according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the porous carrier material is silicon
4. Use according to claim 3 wherein the silicon is resorbable
5. Use according to claim 4 where the resorbable silicon is mesoporous
15 6. Use according to any preceding claim wherein a cytotoxic drug is incorporated into the pores of the porous carrier material.
7. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic drug is present in an amount of from 15% to 85% by weight, based on the weight of the composition.
- 20 8. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic drug is selected from chlorambucil and paclitaxel.
9. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a multiplicity of microparticles.
10. Use of a porous carrier material in the preparation of a medicament for intra-tumoural
25 delivery of a cytotoxic agent.

11. A method of treating a cancer by chemo-brachytherapy comprising intra-tumoural administration of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a cytotoxic drug and a porous carrier material.

12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is as defined
5 in any of claims 1 to 9.

13. Use of a porous carrier material having a cytotoxic drug incorporated into the pores thereof to delivery a cytotoxic drug at a dose higher than the LD50 of the corresponding free drug in a method of treating a cancer.

14. Use according to claim 13 wherein the cytotoxic drug is selected from chlorambucil and
10 paclitaxel.

15. Use of chlorambucil in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a cancer by chemo-brachytherapy.

16. Use of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a porous carrier material and a cytotoxic drug selected from chlorambucil and paclitaxel in the manufacture of a
15 medicament for the treatment of a cancer by chemo-brachytherapy.

17. Use of a porous carrier material to deliver a cytotoxic drug selected from chlorambucil and paclitaxel in a method of treating a cancer by chemo-brachytherapy.

18. A method for treating a cancer by chemo-brachytherapy comprising introducing to the site at which the cancer is located a pharmaceutical composition comprising a porous carrier
20 material and a cytotoxic agent selected from chlorambucil and paclitaxel.

19. A method according to claim 18 wherein the porous carrier material is silicon

20. A method according to claim 18 or claim 19 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is introduced to the site at which the cancer is located by injecting a suspension of microparticles into an artery or vein connected to or located in the organ in which the cancer
25 tumour is located.

21. A method according to claim 18 or claim 19 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is introduced to the site at which the cancer is located by injecting a suspension of microparticles into the cancer tumour.